

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 17421 251801Z
ACTION HUD-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 OES-09 L-03 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 SS-15 /059 W
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R 251749Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4754

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DEPT PASS HUD FOR HANCOCK

SUBJECT: US-USSR HOUSING AGREEMENT: JOINT COMMITTEE
MEETING (JCM)(10.00)

REF: (A) MOSCOW 16997, (B) MOSCOW 14460, (C) STATE
107781

1. BORUNOV OF GOSSTROY HAS REPEATEDLY REQUESTED US RESPONSE TO SOVIET PROPOSAL TO SCHEDULE MEETING OF HOUSING AGREEMENT EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES AUGUST 21-27 (REF) FOR PURPOSES OF JCM PLANNING.
2. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT US PLANNING FOR THE HOUSING JCM AND THE CONCURRENT VISIT OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS NOVIKOV IS BEING CONSIDERED IN LIGHT OF THE CURRENT FREEZE ON HIGH LEVEL VISITS DUE TO THE SENTENCES OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS ORLOV, GINZBURG AND SHCHARANSKIY. IN OUR VIEW PLANNING FOR THE HOUSING JCM, INCLUDING EXCHANGE OF WORKING DOCUMENTS, SHOULD CONTINUE; HOWEVER, FINAL DECISION ON SUITABILITY OF THE NOVIKOV VISIT SHOULD DEPEND ON THE STATE OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS CLOSER TO THE TIME OF HIS PLANNED ARRIVAL (SEPTEMBER 26). IN PARTICULAR, WE BELIEVE THAT US SHOULD NOT SEND A PROGRAM FOR THE

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NOVIKOV VISIT UNTIL A LATER DATE. WE NOTE THAT UNDER THE HOUSING AGREEMENT REGULATIONS US IS NOT OBLIGED TO SEND FINAL ITINERARY UNTIL TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE VISIT.

3. IN VIEW OF THE CANCELLATION OF THE CALIFANO, PRESS, BLUM, AND SIMONS VISITS SOVIETS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY

AWARE THAT NOVIKOV VISIT MAY ALSO BE CALLED
INTO QUESTION AND WE DOUBT THAT THEY WILL BE INCLINED
TO PRESS US ON THIS MATTER. TOON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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